



## Community Input Sessions

### **Q: Are you considering community feedback?**

A: Yes, community feedback will be used in determining the final maps. City Council will consider public feedback before conducting a final vote on the maps.

### **Q: What is the objective of the Community Input Sessions?**

A: The objective is twofold;

First, we want to allow the community to provide input on maps before they're drafted.

Second, the consultants need the opportunity to inform the community about how to submit meaningful input into the map-drawing process.

### **Q: How will the public be able to give feedback?**

A: Part of the Community Input Sessions will allow the consultants to inform the public broadly of the laws and rules governing the map drawing process, then explain how Dave's Redistricting will empower the public to submit their own maps.

### **Q: How long does the community have to submit their maps?**

A: The community will have two weeks to submit their maps but are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. The consultants will take input on a rolling basis to help inform the final map.

### **Q: How does the community submit their maps?**

A: After the community finishes their map in Dave's Redistricting, they can "lock" their map and share the link to it with us. We can receive submissions through email ([maps@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:maps@clevelandcitycouncil.org)) and the Cleveland City Council website.

### **Q: What if the community wants to submit paper maps?**

A: We recognize that not everyone has Internet access or comfort with technology. We welcome the community to use Dave's, and if they prefer to submit a map in person, we will accept them at Cleveland City Council. Our address is 601 Lakeside Ave., Room 220, Cleveland, OH 44114. Council staff will pass the maps to the consultants for review and consideration.

### **Q: Why should we allow politicians to draw their maps? Isn't there currently an effort to reform map drawing at the state house?**

A: Cleveland City Council fully supports the efforts of Citizens Not Politicians when it comes to ending gerrymandering at the state level. Similarly, the current map-drawing process was selected by the voters of the City of Cleveland through a charter amendment in 2010.

**Q: Some have accused Council of rushing this through, why is there a rush to complete the redistricting process?**

A: Cleveland City Council wants its citizens to have adequate time to consider the new wards and determine whether or not they'd like to consider a run for office. Council is working hard to make sure the new maps are adopted by the end of the year, which will allow citizens to begin pulling petitions to run for office. Additionally, in June 2024, the consultants began scheduling meetings with each council member to collect their input. Input from the community, council members, demographic data, and equitable distribution of resources will be taken into consideration when drafting the new map(s).

**Q: Why should the community believe their input will be used in drawing the map?**

A: The Council has focused on providing a transparent and accountable map drawing process, which has always envisioned public input being a necessary component. It is our hope that community members will see and identify their input in the final product.

**Q: If you began this process in June, why do you not have maps in place?**

A: Previous iterations of Cleveland City Council drew maps behind closed doors, excluding the public. A process that excludes the public input might be faster, but we don't believe it to be in the public's best interest.